

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01

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R 310558 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO CINCPAC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6279

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 3859

FOR ADMIRAL GAYLER

EO11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, OVIP, ID

SUBJ: CINCPAC

1. YOUR VISIT HERE COMING SO CLOSELY ON THE HEELS OF THE AMERICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM IS BOUND TO AROUSE EVEN MORE THAN THE NORMAL SHARE OF PRESS INTEREST IN YOUR PRESENCE. WHILE YOUR VISIT HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC, THERE WILL BE BRIEF PRESS RELEASE BY INDONESIANS. WE EXPECT THE LOCAL PRESS AND FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WILL EXHIBIT CONSIDERABLE INITIATIVE IN ATTEMPTING INTERVIEWS OR SOLICITING STATEMENTS FROM YOU DURING YOUR VISIT, PARTICULARLY ON YOUR ARRIVAL.

2. WHILE WE ARE AWARE THAT YOU HAVE CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN HANDLING THIS TYPE OF SITUATION, THE INDONESIAN PRESS IS SOMETIMES TRICKY AND WE WOULD LIKE TO CAUTION YOU AGAINST PROBABLE EFFORTS ON THE PART OF CERTAIN SEGMENTS OF THE PRESS CORPS HERE TO CREATE SOME EMBARRASSING SITUATIONS OR NEWSWORTHY ITEMS CONCERNING US INTENTIONS AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS INDONESIA, INDONESIA'S PARTICIPATION IN ICCS, INDO- US MILITARY COLLABORATION AND FUTURE U S ROLE IN ASIA; PRESS MIGHT ALSO SEEK LEAD YOU INTO SOME COMMENT WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CASTING DOUBT ON INDONESIA' S NON- ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY OR IMPLYING SUBSERVIENCE TO THE U S. YOU MAY ALSO BE FACED WITH QUESTIONS RE THE U S POSITION VIS- A- VIS THE MALACCA STRAIT, LGC OR U S ROLE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, ISSUES ON WHICH GOI AND USG DIFFER BUT WHICH WE HAVE AVOIDED AIRING PUBLICLY WHILE SEEKING QUIETLY SOME BASIS FOR RECONCILING OUR CONFLICTING MREWS.

3. TO AVOID SUCH SITUATIONS AND TO REINFORCE LONG- STANDING AND SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE OF LOW- KEYING VISITS SUCH AS YOURS, WE SUGGEST IF CONFRONTED BY THE PRESS -- WHETHER ON ARRIVAL, DEPARTURE, OR DURING COURSE OF VISIT-- YOU AVOID BOTH SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND TOO EFFUSIVE PRAISE. PERHAPS BEST TACK WOULD BE TO RELY ON GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT HOW GLAD YOU ARE TO BE MAKING YOUR FIRST VISIT, YOUR DESIRE MEET INDONESIAN LEADERS AND SEE INDONESIA, YOUR APPRECIATION INDONESIAN HOSPITALITY, AND YOUR DESIRE RETURN AND SEE MORE. IF YOU SHOULD DECIDE SOME DEPARTURE STATEMENT WOULD BE ADVISABLE AND COURTEOUS, USIS WILL BE ON HAND TO COORDINATE WITH COL. LYNN AND TO ASSIST.

4. COMMENT: ONE OF THE CONFUSING THINGS ABOUT DIALOGUE WITH INDONESIANS IS THAT PRIVATELY OFFICIALS CAN AND DO TALK ABOUT U S - INDO MILITARY COLLABERATION IN OPPOSING COMMUNISTS BUT PUBLICLY THIS SUBJECT IS TABOO.
GALBRAITH

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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